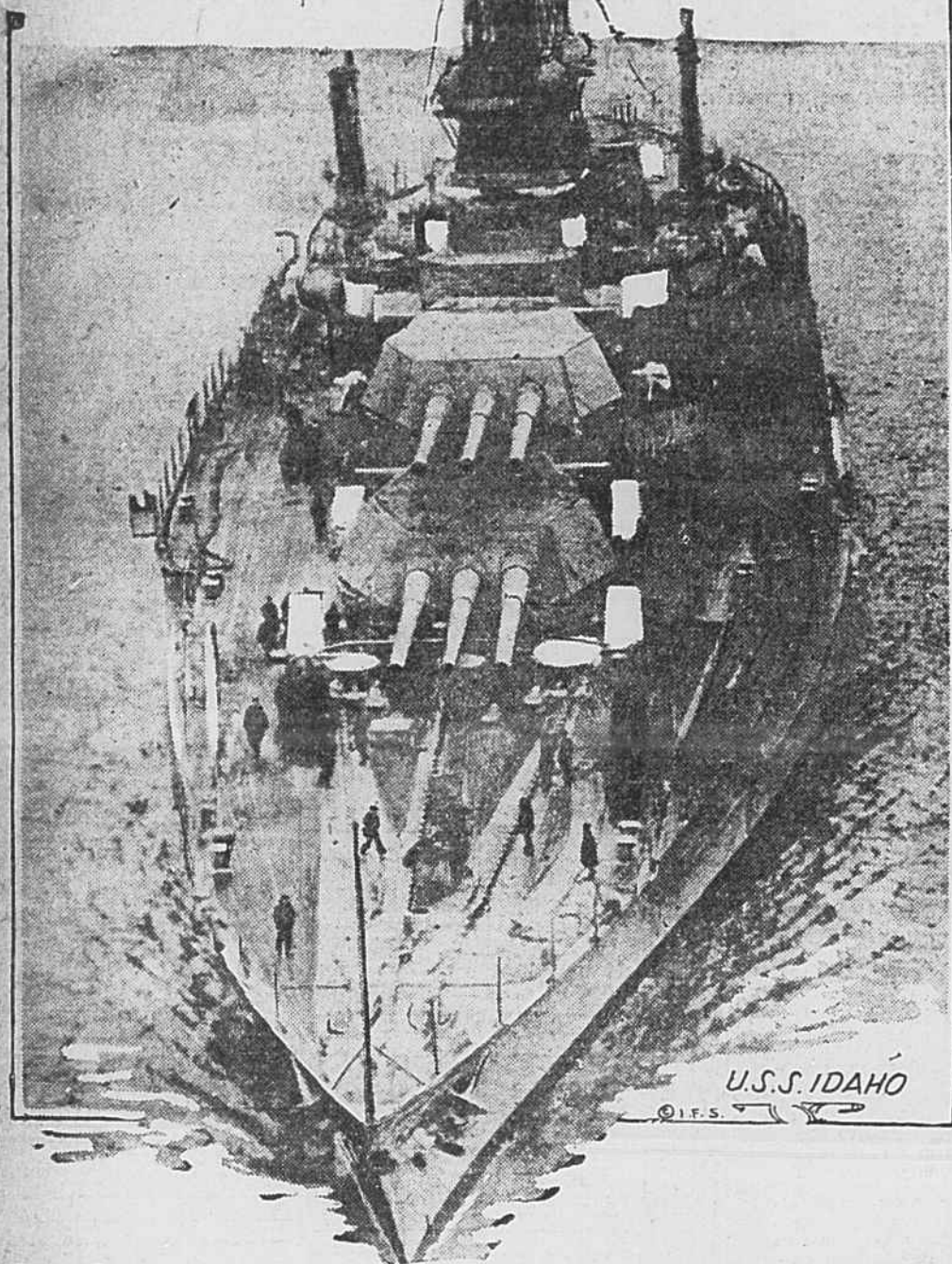


## AMERICA'S PACIFIC FLEET PASSES THE PANAMA CANAL SUCCESSFULLY

The First Step in Assertion  
of U.S. Naval Power  
in Pacific.

COLON, July 26.—The newly created Pacific fleet of the United States navy steamed into Colon at dawn yesterday and yesterday afternoon the warships after taking on oil and coal went through Gatun Locks, the first stage



in the Panama Canal journey from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

Airplanes escorted the fleet into the harbor where great crowds lined the shores for a sight of dreadnaughts, the first that ever visited the canal. The fleet movement so far has proceeded without a hitch.

The fleet spent the night in Gatun lock and this morning resumed the trip to Balboa, at the Pacific end of the canal. The fleet will remain there until Monday.

Admiral Hugh Rodman, commanding the fleet, took the bridge on his flagship, the New Mexico, at sunrise yesterday and directed the passage of the ships through the Colon breakwater to the docks.

By F. M. Kerby and A. E. Geldhof, N. E. A. Washington Bureau, 1128-1134 Munsey Bldg., Washington, D. C. July 26.—America's Pacific coast is guarded as never before.

When the fleet now going through the Panama canal is assembled on the western ocean, Uncle Sam will have a Pacific armada equal to the entire Japanese navy. In some respects it will be superior.

This United States fleet can meet on equal terms any other naval force that can be assembled in Pacific waters.

From all parts of the Atlantic coast great iron-gray battleships have sped to Panama. The big ditch is getting its greatest test.

Canal officials say the entire fleet can be taken through in two days. Navy officials mean to find out.

When the vessels from various parts of the Atlantic, and those already in Pacific ports, get together,



ADMIRAL RODMAN.

Admiral Rodman will have 200 ships under his command.

The entire Japanese navy numbers 207.

Other comparisons of the two fleets follow:

Pacific Fleet—Eight dreadnaughts, eight pre-dreadnaughts (making 16 battleships), eleven cruisers.

Japanese Navy—Five dreadnaughts, twelve pre-dreadnaughts (making 17 battleships), four battle cruisers, 29 cruisers.

But at this point the tabulation loses effectiveness because of the differences in classification between the two navies. The U. S. navy has no battle cruisers in commission, for instance, but the eleven cruisers are considered superior in fighting power

to the Japanese vessels similarly classified. In addition Admiral Rodman's fleet has a large number of "small cruisers" and gunboats which are useful as scouts or patrol boats against weak or uncivilized states, but which are not counted as modern fighting vessels.

But in destroyers the comparison is Pacific fleet 108 (all new); Japanese navy 90.

The figures are up-to-date from the navy department and the Japanese embassy.

The Pacific fleet's tonnage is 535,000; the Japanese navy's 780,000.

But the Pacific fleet is superior in hitting power, equal in gun power and nearly equal in man power.

And in addition, there's our Asiatic squadron! That's the fleet in the Philippines and around Guam and our farther islands.

Establishment of the Pacific fleet is only the beginning of the assertion of United States sea power in the Pacific. When Congress in 1916 adopted the navy department's "Three Year

Building Program" it authorized a total addition to our navy of 156 vessels of all types, including 10 battleships and six battle cruisers. Every one of these ships is either now in commission or under construction.

The new three-year program (to be complete by 1923) calls for 156 more vessels and is a duplication of the previous program, including ten dreadnaughts and six battle cruisers. By 1923, therefore, the U. S. navy will include 61 first-line, heavy gun vessels—dreadnaughts, pre-dreadnaughts and battle cruisers which will give about thirty of these ships to the Pacific coast.

### Doctor Renner Has Returned to Paris

(By Associated Press.)  
PARIS, July 26.—Doctor Carl Renner, the Austrian chancellor and head of the Austrian peace delegation, is returning to St. Germain from Feldkirch near the Swiss border where he has been in consultation with other Austrian officials regarding the Allied peace terms according to a dispatch today from Feldkirch. At St. Germain Dr. Renner will prepare a report regarding the complete peace terms which were recently handed to the Austrian delegates.

Mrs. Earl McCray and daughter, Miss Bonnie Jean, have returned from Clarksburg, where they had spent the past ten days with relatives.

### Six Month's Course in Trained Nursing

George Washington University hospital at Washington is inaugurating a six months' course in nursing. This step is due to the alarming shortage of trained nurses which is being felt so keenly not only in Washington but throughout the country and is causing intense concern in the medical world.

The plan to provide a short course in nursing, it is stated, grew out of the fact that during the war many women, prominent in the social circles of Washington and New York, expressed a desire to take up nursing but the three years' training required to become a graduate nurse soon checked their ambitions in this direction. However, they have persuaded the hospital authorities that a short course in nursing might bring gratifying results, and the decision to give a six months' training period followed.

The course is a special one and will not conflict with the regular three-year course offered by this and other hospitals. It will, however, give all who enroll some beneficial knowledge of the rudimentary principles of nursing. The superintendent of the hospital is anxious that a number of young women will embrace this opportunity to enter a field which offers so many advantages and opportunities for usefulness.

Kersley Hartley left today for Baltimore, where he will receive treatment for a fractured arm which he sustained recently.

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